

Appln No. 09/927,296
Amdt date February 1, 2007
Reply to Office action of August 1, 2006

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings, which include FIGS. 1, 2, and 3, replace Figs. 1, 2 and 3 submitted on April 30, 2004.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

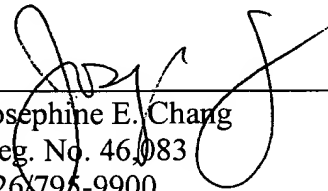
Claims 45-57 are currently pending in this application, of which claims 52-57 have been withdrawn. Claims 45-48 and 51 have been allowed. However, because claim 51 depends on a rejected base claim, Applicant assumes that the Examiner intended to indicate that claim 51 would be allowable if rewritten in independent format to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 51 has been amended to be re-written in independent format to include all the limitations of base claim 49 and intervening claim 50. Claims 49-50 and 52-57 have been canceled.

The drawings filed on 4/30/04 have been objected to. Applicant submits herewith formal drawings to replace objected FIGS. 1-3. Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendments, Applicant requests an early indication of allowance of the now-pending claims 45-48 and 51.

Respectfully submitted,
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APPENDIX